

TANEY COUNTY REPUBLICAN

Vol. 22. No. 25.

FORSYTH, MISSOURI, THURSDAY, MAY 3, 1917.

Four Pages.

Where Does Congress Come in?

Mr. Balfour reached Washington on a Sunday afternoon. On the following morning he called at the White House and, the evening of the same day, he was entertained at a dinner there. The company was a varied one. At the board sat the Britishers, a Canadian, the Cabinet, officers of the army and navy, John Skelton Williams, and W. P. G. Harding, Samuel Gompers, "Barney" Baruch, Julius Rosenwald, and Howard Coffin—all representatives of something or another, but mostly chosen from that group with which the President delights to surround himself. The Vice President was there, and the Speaker of the House; but no Senator or other representative thrust his legs beneath the Presidential mahogany or ate of the three or less courses which are now so fashionable in Washington dining circles.

Yet it was Congress which voted us into the war, which granted the billions which Mr. McAdoo is about to distribute with his crown-princely hand, and which, at that very moment was debating the President's proposals for selective conscription. The appointees of the President were there in force; but of the representatives of the people there were none—Champ Clark to the contrary notwithstanding.

Mr. Balfour could hardly have failed to notice this. He comes from a country where the Parliament is the last repository of power, and neither Prime Ministers nor any other Cabinet officers can exist without parliamentary sanction, where the hand that holds the purse strings controls all the destinies of the nation, where of late, even the hereditary chamber of the lords is impotent before the representatives of the people.

In theory it is the same here, where the lower House of Congress originates taxation, where both houses exercise joint powers in declaring war, where the upper chamber has a negative upon the President's power of appointment and upon his functions in concluding peace.

Yet the supreme body of Congress saw Mr. Balfour and his associates only by proxy or by stealth. In Congress there are diplomats the equal of Mr. Lansing, financiers the equal of Mr. McAdoo, sailors the equal of Mr. Daniels, business men the equal of Mr. Redfield, lawyers the equal of Mr. Gregory, soldiers the equal of Mr. Baker, farmers the equal of Mr. Houston, laboring men the equal of Mr. Wilson. But none of them were deemed worthy to break bread with Mr. Balfour—and the President, to say nothing of John Skelton Williams and others.

Just where does Congress come in? Has Congress done its full duty and received its full recognition when it has voted the money into the hands of Mr. McAdoo and power into the hands of the President? Or is Congress still a coordinate branch of the government, with rights and privileges which extend even to social affairs and to councils which involve the action of the country in international relations?

Mr. Wilson and Mr. Balfour may confer until the cows come home, but whatever they conclude must be sanctioned on Capitol Hill and at Westminster before it can be translated into action. Westminster was represented at the President's board; Capitol Hill was not. Mr. Balfour, when he returns home, can tell the Commons about his visit at Washington. But who is to tell Congress? Where does Congress come in? Or has Congress been politely wedded out?

Battle to Death.

London, April, 2 (Tuesday).—Correspondents at British headquarters in France concur in statements that the battle which has been resumed at Arras is much fiercer than when it began. The Germans, they say, were fully prepared for us, and are being driven back in some places and are being driven forward in others. The British are asserting it is one of the most difficult battles of the whole war.

The Germans by frantic work, the

correspondent adds, have constructed numerous trenches and machine gun pits, not in a definite line but strewn everywhere in apparent disorder as if each position had been selected by virtue of some rise in the ground. Another correspondent writes:

"The battle is extremely hard for our men. It is a battle to the death. Fighting is in progress at all points attained by our troops and there is an ebb and flow in the battle. Our men are beaten back for a while by the intensity of the fire, but they are attacking again and again and getting for ward."

Almost all the fighting, it seems, is being done by the English and Scottish troops. It has been said that the German casualties have been very severe and those of the British are moderate, inflicted largely by machine guns and sharpshooters and not of a very serious character.

Estimates of prisoners vary. One correspondent says the first day's prisoners amount to not less than 2000. The captures of guns are mentioned without an estimate of their number being given.

Obituary.

John C. Hilsabeck who died last week in Forsyth and whose obsequies were reported in the Republican on Mar. 10, 1830, the son of Frederick and Elizabeth Hilsabeck. His first wife was a Miss Davidson of Illinois, and a second marriage was to Mrs. Hiram Morris who formerly lived in West Virginia and who survives him. Of this second marriage were born Anna, Estelle, Nellie, Lois and John Preston who are well known here; and of the first marriage there were three children, William, Joseph and Monta. The surviving widow in her youth was Miss Emily Annie Haley. In early life Mr. Hilsabeck was a locomotive engineer and later on was a blacksmith and a hotel keeper.

Possessed of a rugged constitution and a "mind to travel" Uncle John for many years spent a good deal of his time on the borders of civilization in Colorado and other western states, always finding his services in demand because he was a good craftsman in iron work. About thirty years ago he came to Forsyth and established the Hilsabeck Hotel on the north side of the public square where he lived till he quit business on account of increasing years about a year ago. So well known was he as a master fisherman and genial landlord that what can be said of him is already familiar fact to thousands. He said he came to Taney county because here he could catch fish every month in the year, and he probably did because his industry in pursuit of the fishy tribe was indefatigable. Guests at the Hilsabeck Hotel expected fresh fish and got them and men who wanted to fish for the sport there was in it found Uncle John to be a splendid guide and comrade. He knew the crooks and crannies of White River thoroughly and with quick wit, kindness, patience and repartee he made outing pleasant for his companions. He will long be in happy memory as fisherman and hotel keeper.

While Uncle John early affiliated with the Christian Church, in religious matters he was never so straight laced as to refuse a share in the joy of living while health and strength made pleasure worth while. His shrewd estimate of men and moral values gave him a bright idea of what was really his great need. With mental powers unimpaired as his days became less he expressed repentance and declared his sure and joyful acceptance of salvation through Jesus Christ. He passed quietly and peacefully into the beyond. The funeral services were conducted in the Stone Chapel by Rev. U. G. Johnson and Rev. Fred Mills who delivered a very touching and appropriate address. Mr. Mills added beautiful singing to the service. Interment was made in the Forsyth cemetery.

Compromise Means Delay.

The members of the House that express a wish "to try the volunteer system a little while longer" overlook the fact that it is being tried now and is found wanting, and that it has often been tried before with disastrous results. We tried it in the Revolutionary war and our army dwindled in size in spite of bounties and subsidies. We had the same luck in the war of 1812 with reverses on land that were humiliating. In the civil war the Confederacy was driven to draft April 19, 1862, and the Union was forced to the same expedient the following August, although it was stoutly resisted and the method was marred with the miserable provision that let cowards hire substitutes to die for them. We have pointed out that it will take at least a year's training to fit our soldiers for actual fighting. France has required three years' training while Germany adds a reserve training to that period. It is impossible to get men voluntarily to enlist in sufficient quantity for this period of preparation. There is not the psychological appeal of imminent danger. The fact that we are having such difficulty in filling up the regular army and navy emphasizes this.

But if the volunteer plan were not obviously impossible it should be abandoned because it is not equitable. Universal training, selective conscription, or whatever euphemistic or euphoric term we use represents the only democratic method. The converse of equal rights to all and special privileges to none is equal obligations on all and special exemptions to none. In the exercise of wise discretion classes may be exempted because they can render more valuable service to the nation in other ways, because they are unfitted for military service, or because of family responsibilities that must be regarded, but no exemptions should be based on unwillingness to sacrifice. The volunteer system puts the heaviest sacrifices on the shoulders of the brave and generous. It is not fair to this generation or to the next.

Let us have a fair compulsory law without bounties or provisions for substitutes, affecting rich and poor, educated and illiterate, black and white alike. Compromise means costly delay.—Globe Democrat.

List of Ozarkians courting at Forsyth this week: W. L. Vandeventer, C. E. Reid, G. P. Hays, H. B. Johnson, J. W. Robertson, D. F. A. Aedgpath, J. C. Barnes, J. A. Keer, Z. Acuff, Miss Ida Acuff, Levi Handy, D. R. David, J. T. Wilson, Jacob Hartley, J. H. Turner, J. S. Taylor, W. E. Keltner, W. L. Woody, S. K. Stine, John Glenn, George Brazzale, H. T. Davis, S. E. Bronson, R. D. Walker, Judge Moore, Thomas Moore and several auto drivers. The few who are left are having a hard time trying to hold the town on the map.—Ozark Democrat.

The Fire at Branson.

Once more Branson has had an expensive lesson on the question of preparedness and it is to be hoped that this time she will heed and provide some adequate means of fighting fire. Monday morning of last week between 8 and 9 o'clock the shrill and prolonged tooting of a locomotive notified our people that something serious was wrong, but no one was left long in doubt, for the clouds of smoke rolling up in the vicinity of the depot told that our old enemy, the Fire Fiend, was again at work and not having any means of fighting the fire effectively, the best fight possible was put up.

The fire caught in the John S. Rollston residence at the corner of Main Street and the railroad right-of-way catching in the second story, but was too far advanced for stopping it before being discovered. From the Rollston building it went to the White River Hotel and from there to the residence of W. A. Boyles, all three buildings being entirely destroyed. Only the fact that there was very little wind and that little from the south prevented

ed the concrete warehouse owned by R. J. Patterson Jr., from burning also, and even the depot was endangered. Every means known to the amateur fire fighter was used to prevent the spread of fire, men staying on the roofs of exposed buildings pouring water, soaking blankets etc., but were gradually forced back. An attempt was even made to dynamite a portion of the White River Hotel in order to save the Boyles dwelling but to no effect.

In the Rollston house about all the furniture in the lower story was saved and practically all the furniture in the Hotel and the Boyles residence, but of course was more or less broken and bruised. The hotel furniture was owned by Ed Ramsey and was not insured, but there was some insurance on the Boyles and Rollston furniture, and all three of the houses were fairly well insured, but all will entail heavy losses on the owners.

The Hotel was owned by W. A. Boyles but operated by Ed Ramsey, so Mr. Boyles will be the heaviest loser.

The train men and negroes with a boarding train that was on track rendered valuable aid in saving furniture and trying to save buildings.—White River Leader.

The Ozark Democrat entered upon eighteenth year of its existence with last week's issue. When Mr. Reid started the Democrat in that Republican stronghold seventeen years ago the prediction was freely made that the Democrat would not last for six months but the paper grew and flourished from the beginning and has been a power for good in Christian County.—The Marshfield Chronicle.

You can serve Uncle Sam by taking a business course or telegraphy in the Springfield, (Mo.) Business College, and helping with business or transcription. If students are drafted or volunteer, tuition will be refunded except for time in school. School all summer.

The Bronson Trial.

As we go to press, this Thursday afternoon, no word announcing a verdict in the trial of S. E. Bronson at Forsyth has been received, further than all the evidence was all in Wednesday night at the time of the leaving of some of the witnesses for their homes in Ozark. It is thought that last night and Thursday forenoon would be consumed in the arguments of the attorneys and possibly the case would go to the jury about noon today. Well informed men and those interested in a conviction, predict an acquittal or hung jury, few predict conviction, not on account of the lack of sufficient evidence, but rumors that a jury fixing in Taney county has been resorted to by the defense. It is openly said that this is one of the leading features why the case was sent to Taney county for trial. Let us hope, however this is not the case. If Mr. Bronson is not guilty of wrong doing in this matter, no one is small enough, we hope in this community to want an innocent man convicted but some people will have a mighty hard time convincing some others in this community that he is not guilty.

The attorneys representing the state are Prosecuting Attorney Vandeventer of Christian county, G. Ford Hays of Ozark and former Assistant Attorney General Ewing. The defense is represented by O. T. Hamlin and Judge Alfred Page of Springfield, John T. and Tom Moore of Ozark, W. P. Sullivan of Billings and McConkey, Ford and Sharp of Forsyth.—Christian County Republican.

Human cuticle is more delicate than fine silk, says an antomologist; which affords an excellent reason to plow it up harrow it and disintegrate it with a bath brush that would remove rust from an old stovepipe.

If it is dark enough in the room the horns on the rocking chairs are long as those of a Texas steer.

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If you have a watch or clock that needs cleaning or repairing, or any jewelry that needs repairing, bring them in and I will fix them up for you.

You can fool all people some of the time, and some of the people all of the time, but we like to associate with people who can't be fooled any of the time and be one of them, don't you?

Advice is plentiful and it costs nothing if you let it alone.

Some people still survive who like horse races, but what's the use? We mean the use of liking them, not the use of surviving.

In figuring up statistics on crime, how much is allowed for men held up who refrain from reporting to the police because they dislike publicity?